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Secretary for
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Department of Toxic Substances Control

Maureen F. Gorsen, Director
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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

PUBLIC NOTICE OF EXPEDITED SOIL REMOVAL ACTIVITIES AND NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH, CITY HALL SITE CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA

What Is Being Proposed?

An expedited draft plan to excavate, remove and dispose of contaminated soil from the City of Huntington Beach, City Hall site is available for public review and comment. The draft plan, called a Removal Action Workplan (RAW), was developed for the 11.8 acre site located at 2000 Main Street. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will oversee soil excavation, removal and transportation activities and ensure site activities are conducted in accordance with state laws and regulations. The site is currently occupied by City Hall and Civic Center facilities. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC proposes a Notice of Exemption (NOE), as the proposed actions will not have a significant effect on public health and the environment.

Historically, the area was formerly used as an oil field. Currently, the site parcel is owned by the City of Huntington Beach and existing structures at the site include four (4) buildings, two (2) small trailers, three (3) active oil wells, eight (8) abandoned oil wells, mechanical oil pumps, oil production accessories, private streets, parking lot, paved areas and planters. During recent seismic retrofitting activities of the City Hall building, creosote-covered exterior walls and foundation were uncovered. Construction activities were halted and the creosote was bagged loosely and covered with polyethylene sheeting at the construction staging area east of the site. The creosote contains polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) at levels exceeding DTSC's health based standards. The draft RAW for the site describes the process of excavation, removal and disposal of approximately 1,150 cubic yards (about 15 truck loads) of impacted soil. Soil removal activities will be implemented after the public comment period and be limited to an area within the site.

Why This Notice and Where to Find More Detailed Information

This notice is to provide interested stakeholders an opportunity to know more about the project, participate in the abbreviated public comment period, and review project documents. Protection to city employees and visitors is the reason DTSC is abbreviating the public comment period and expediting proposed soil removal activities.

The abbreviated public comment period begins December 4, 2008 and ends December 13, 2008. Send your public comments in writing or via e-mail to: Safouh Sayed, DTSC Project Manager, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by December 13, 2008. The draft RAW, NOE and other supporting documents are available for public review at:

Huntington Beach City Hall
City Clerk's Office
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
(714) 536-5431

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
Contact: Julie Johnson at (714) 484-5337
Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

How Do I Participate and Who to Contact For More Information?

For questions about the project please contact Safouh Sayed, DTSC Project Manager at (714) 484-5478 or Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll free 1-888-877-5378.

Notice to Hearing Impaired:

You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Stacey Lear at the number above regarding the City of Huntington Beach, City Hall site.